UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.1/51/L.45
31 October 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fifty-first session
FIRST COMMITTEE
Agenda item 71

GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Marshall Islands, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America: draft resolution

Bilateral nuclear arms negotiations and nuclear disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions,

Recognizing the fundamental changes that have taken place with respect to international security, which have permitted agreements on deep reductions in the nuclear armaments of the States possessing the largest inventories of such weapons,

Mindful that it is the responsibility and obligation of all States to contribute to the process of the relaxation of international tension and to the strengthening of international peace and security and, in this connection, to adopt and implement measures towards the attainment of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

Appreciating a number of positive developments in the field of nuclear disarmament, in particular the Treaty between the former Union of Soviet

Socialist Republics and the United States of America on the Elimination of Their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles, 1/ and the treaties on the reduction and limitation of strategic offensive arms,

Appreciating also the indefinite extension of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons 2/ and acknowledging the importance of the determined pursuit by the nuclear-weapon States of systematic and progressive efforts to reduce nuclear weapons globally, with the ultimate goal of eliminating those weapons, and by all States of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

Welcoming the steps that have already been taken by the Russian Federation and the United States of America to begin the process of reducing the number of nuclear weapons and removing such weapons from a deployed status, and bilateral agreements on the issue of de-targeting strategic nuclear missiles,

Noting the new climate of relations between the States of the former Soviet Union and the United States of America, which permits them to intensify their cooperative efforts to ensure the safety, security and environmentally sound destruction of nuclear weapons,

Noting also that the Russian Federation and the United States of America concurred that, once the Treaty between them on Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms 3/ was ratified, they would proceed to deactivate all nuclear delivery systems to be reduced under the Treaty by removing their nuclear warheads or taking other steps to remove them from alert status,

Noting further the commitment between the Russian Federation and the United States of America to intensify their dialogue to compare conceptual approaches and to develop concrete steps to adapt the nuclear forces and practices on both sides to the changed international security situation, including the possibility, after ratification of the Treaty on the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms, of further reductions of and limitations on remaining nuclear forces,

Taking note of the joint statement of 10 May 1995, between the Russian Federation and the United States of America on the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems,

Recalling the Declaration of the Moscow Nuclear Safety and Security Summit of April 1996,

---

1/ The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook, vol. 12: 1987 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.88.IX.2), appendix VII.

2/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 729, No. 10485.

3/ The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook, vol. 18: 1993 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.IX.1), appendix II.

Urging early action to complete the ratification of the Treaty on Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms and further intensification of efforts to accelerate the implementation of agreements and unilateral decisions relating to nuclear arms reduction,

Welcoming the significant reductions made by other nuclear-weapon States, and encouraging all nuclear-weapon States to consider appropriate measures relating to nuclear disarmament,

1. Welcomes the entry into force of the Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms, 4/ signed in Moscow on 31 July 1991 by the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, including the Protocol to that Treaty signed at Lisbon on 23 May 1992 by the parties thereto, and the exchange of documents of ratification between the United States of America, Belarus, Kazakstan, the Russian Federation and Ukraine on 5 December 1994 at Budapest;

2. Also welcomes the signing of the Treaty between the Russian Federation and the United States of America on Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms in Moscow on 3 January 1993, 3/ and urges the parties to take the steps necessary to bring that Treaty into force at the earliest possible date;

3. Expresses its satisfaction at the entry into force and ongoing implementation of the 1991 Treaty as well as the ratification by the United States of America of the 1993 Treaty, and expresses its hope that it will soon be possible for the Russian Federation to ratify that Treaty also;

4. Expresses further satisfaction at the continuing implementation of the Treaty between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on the Elimination of their Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles, 1/ in particular at the completion by the parties of the destruction of all their declared missiles subject to elimination under the Treaty;

5. Welcomes the removal of all nuclear weapons from the territory of Kazakstan as of 1 June 1995, and from the territory of Ukraine as of 1 June 1996;

6. Encourages the Russian Federation, the United States of America, Belarus, Kazakstan and Ukraine to continue their cooperative efforts aimed at eliminating nuclear weapons and strategic offensive arms on the basis of existing agreements, and welcomes the contributions that other States are making to such cooperation as well;

7. Welcomes the accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons of Belarus, Kazakstan and Ukraine as non-nuclear-weapon States, which thereby provided notable enhancement to the non-proliferation regime;

4/ Ibid., vol. 16: 1991 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.92.IX.1), appendix II.

8. Encourages and supports the Russian Federation and the United States of America in their efforts to reduce their nuclear weapons and to continue to give those efforts the highest priority in order to contribute to the ultimate goal of eliminating those weapons;

9. Invites the Russian Federation and the United States of America to keep other States Members of the United Nations duly informed of progress in their discussions and in the implementation of their strategic offensive arms agreements and unilateral decisions.